

SECRET

Computers

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IEG 307-70
17 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: COINS Meeting, 15 September 1970

1. [redacted] COINS Project Manager, convened a meeting of COINS representatives on 15 September to review user reaction of the COINS system. Specifically, he gave a run down on stations operational, numbers of queries made, numbers of responses received, etc. He was followed by [redacted] NSA, and dealt with specific problems encountered by the COINS system. These included the "cruelty" of the system, meaning that a requester has no way of knowing that he has goofed until a query has been completely entered and an abort message is returned. He must then start all over again from scratch. Other general complaints included the uncertainty of obtaining any responses at all, and the fragmentary nature of the data in some of the files.

[redacted] of NSA reported on a survey of FPN and related files. [redacted] DIA, reported on DIA's plans to establish a world-wide be-all and end-all order of battle file and a CIA rep gave an excellent report on the personality files. All of these reports revealed only limited success in achieving community usefulness. Currency of information, the need to add [redacted] and TK material came up over and over again.

2. Following formal reports, [redacted] requested comments on the kinds of files the Agency would like to see on the system. The Finintel or Aegis file is expected to be very popular. The NIC rep wanted a file which would ring "panic" everytime a crisis was about to develop. State suggested a file of economic statistics. Yours truly noted that the discussion sounded very much like the last COINS meeting he attended three years ago and that he was disturbed to see no better understanding of the conditions necessary to justify development of a large ADP based file.

[redacted]
Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group
NPIC

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